EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of Education in *Ireland*, for the Year 1875–76.

TO HIS GRACE JAMES, DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.,
LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR
OF IRELAND, &c. &c. &c.

WE, "the Commissioners of Education in Ireland," constituted by Acts of Parliament passed in the reigns of their late Majesties King George the Third and King George the Fourth, respectfully submit to your Grace the following general Report of their Proceedings during the year 1875–76.

In the first place we beg to call your Grace's attention to the fact that the Annual Report, emanating from a body constituted as this Commission is, and possessed of such limited powers, must of necessity be of a somewhat meagre character, and devoid of much varied interest.

We beg to report to your Grace that the Armagh Royal School is represented to us to be very fully attended, and to be in all respects in a flourishing and very satisfactory condition; the new Class and School Rooms, referred to in our last Annual Report, as having become necessary to accommodate the large attendance of pupils, are now in progress of erection, under the charge of our architect, and will, we have reason to expect, be fully completed before the termination of the present year.

In reference to Banagher Royal School, we have to report that the School Room, which had been destroyed by an accidental fire, as stated in our last Annual Report, has been restored, and is now in the occupation of the teachers and pupils.

The buildings of all the other Royal Schools, as well as those of Private Foundation under our control, have been kept by us in a proper and substantial condition, by such outlays as were reported to be necessary for that purpose.

The estates which constitute the endowments of the several Endowed Schools under our control, and which are managed by our local agents, are generally in a satisfactory state; the tenants residing on them are peaceable and well-conducted, and largely avail themselves of the Primary Schools established for the benefit of their children.

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The Returns of the number of pupils attending the respective Endowed Schools do not exhibit any very material change since our last Report to your Grace.

The course of instruction given in the Royal Schools, both Classical and Scientific, is of a high and extensive character; and the charges made at them for the day pupils, are very moderate, and adapted to meet the line of instruction called for by the parents.

The proposal to found School Exhibitions and Prizes referred to in our late Report, we beg to state we have carried out; and we trust that the measure will lead to an increase in the numbers in attendance in the Royal Schools, and to a further improvement in the course of education imparted therein. The regulations made respecting these Exhibitions are given in the programme attached to this Report, to which we beg respectfully to direct your Grace's notice.

The Royal Scholarships heretofore founded by us in the University of Dublin, which are attainable only as the results of severe Competitive Examinations at the University, are, we have reason to believe, of considerable benefit in maintaining a high standard of knowledge. Attached to this Report will be found our most recent regulations in regard to them.

The following are the names of those now enjoying Royal Scholarships in the University:—

On the Armagh Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
J. W. King	50 per annum.	W. Kilpatrick	50 per annum.
P. G. Sandford	50 „	R. W. Lucas	40 „
H. King	50 „		

On the Cavan Royal School Foundation.

C. Mease - - - - - - - £. 25 per annum.

On the Dungannon Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
A. Samuels	50 per annum.	R. Mandera	50 per annum.
E. W. Hobson	30 „	J. Ringwood	50 „
W. Beatty	50 „	A. A. Hamilton	30 „
W. Irwin	30 „	A. Bell	40 „

On the Enniskillen Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
L. C. Purser	50 per annum.	L. W. Rutledge	30 per annum.
R. McDowell	30 „	G. Garrett	50 „
W. T. Lendrum	50 „	J. Sharkey	30 „
J. McDowell	30 „	C. Murphy	50 „
H. Beatty	50 „	D. Robertson	30 „

It may be right to state to your Grace that no religious test is required as a condition for the attainment either of the Royal Scholarships or of the School Exhibitions or Prizes.

Having

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Having no authority to appoint and to pay inspectors of the Schools under our supervision, we have felt it necessary to order a Special Visitation to be held at certain of the Royal Schools, and we are now in possession of full Reports of the condition of the several Schools, prepared by our visitor, as well as of valuable suggestions in reference to their future progress and improvement.

The remarks made in many of our Annual Reports, in which we have from time to time called the attention of the Government to the inadequate powers of this Commission, and made suggestions as to details which appeared to us of pressing importance, having failed to attract the attention of Her Majesty's Government, we feel that it is not unbecoming on our part to again direct attention to the subject, a full statement of which is contained in our last Annual Report.

All which we respectfully submit to your Grace as our Report.

(signed) JAMES WHITESIDE, Chief Justice. (L. S.)
H. LLOYD, n.n., Provost Q.C.D. (L. S.)
J. D. FITZGERALD. (L. S.)
JOHN H. JELLETT. (L. S.)
WILLIAM B. KIRKPATRICK, n.n. (L. S.)

June 1876.

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,
Secretary.

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ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS.

REGULATIONS of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland," for 1876.

"THE Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded 35 Exhibitions, called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan, viz., five of 40*l.* per annum, and five of 30*l.* per annum, for each of the Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen; and five of 25*l.* per annum for Cavan School.

These Scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been three years in all, previously to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal Schools. It is not, however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of these schools to another; but the Scholarships founded for the respective Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such Scholarships have been founded.

The Scholarships are tenable for five years, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The Provost and Senior Fellows appoint Examiners in each year, to examine, on the first convenient day after the second entrance, in the month of October, such students as have entered from the said four Royal Schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these Scholarships.

In 1876 the examinations will be in the following subjects:—

I.—Greek and Latin Classics (200 marks).

1. Two Greek and two Latin authors included in the ordinary entrance course of Trinity College, together with one Greek and one Latin author not so included, to be examined *vivâ voce*. The books appointed for the year 1876 are:
   Homer's "Iliad," Books V., VI., and VII. Virgil's "Æneid," Books I., II., VI., VII. Euripides, "Bacchæ"; edited by Tyrrell. Cæsar, "de Bello Gallico," Books I., II., III. Xenophon, "Anabasis," Books I., II., III. Horace, "Satires and Epistles," omitting the "Art of Poetry."
2. Passages from Greek and Latin authors, not named beforehand, for translation in writing.
3. Greek and Latin Prose Composition.
4. Paper of questions in Ancient History. [Books recommended—Dr. Smith's "Grecian History"; Liddell's smaller "Roman History."]

II.—English Language (100 marks).

1. English Language and Literature.
   [Books recommended—Trench, "English, Past and Present." Bacon's Essays, First Forty Essays (Wright's Edition, "Golden Treasury" Series.) "Student's Manual of English Literature." Smith's "Specimens of English Literature."]
   Candidates will be expected to be well acquainted with the following works, viz.—Milton's "Paradise Lost," Books I. and II.; Milton's "Samson Agonistes"; Shakspeare, "Hamlet" and "The Tempest."
2. English Composition.
3. History of England.—[Book recommended—Green's "History of the English People."]
4. Geography, Descriptive and Physical.

III.—Modern Languages (50 marks).

French or German.

Note.—The course of examination for Royal Scholarships will be varied, from time to time, by the Commissioners.

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IV.—Science (100 marks).

1. Arithmetic.
2. Algebra, to the end of Quadratic Equations.
3. Euclid, Books I., II., III., and VI.
4. Plane Trigonometry, including the solution of plane Triangles.

Candidates may present themselves for examination in any of the four preceding courses, or in all of them. The result of the examination will be determined by the aggregate number of marks obtained by the several candidates; the number affixed to each course denoting the greatest number of marks obtainable in that course.

No fellow-commoner can be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No pensioner shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship who shall not have remained at one of the Royal Schools to which the Scholarships are attached till an entrance examination in Trinity College, in the month of October next preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships.

No sizar shall be admitted as a candidate, who shall not have remained at such Royal School till the sizarship entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships, at which he may be a candidate.

No student who shall have attained 20 years of age shall be permitted to become a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No student shall be elected a Royal Scholar unless he shall have, previously to the examination, produced to the Secretary of the Commissioners a certificate signed by the Master of the Royal School from which he shall have entered Trinity College, certifying that such candidate is duly qualified according to the above-stated rules, such certificate to be handed by the candidate to the Examiners.

The candidates from all the schools shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without distinction of schools; the Commissioners reserving to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more Scholarships, if sufficient merit has not been shown.

In cases of equality of merit, in all other respects, the poverty of a candidate will be taken into consideration. A student who has once been a candidate shall not be eligible on a subsequent occasion.

A Royal Scholarship becomes forfeited by the holder of it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or rustication; failing to proceed regularly with his class; or failing to obtain in any year either one honour of the first rank, or two honours of the second rank.

The election itself to one of these Scholarships is reckoned as equivalent to one honour of the second rank; a University Moderatorship, a University Scholarship, the Berkeley Gold Medal, the Lloyd Exhibition, the Wray Prize, success in the first Indian Civil Service (competitive) examination, or at the Woolwich entrance examination, as equivalent to a University honour of the first rank, and obtaining a respondency, or success at any of the subsequent Indian Civil Service examinations as equivalent to a University honour of the second rank.

The exhibitions become due half-yearly, viz., on the 1st of May and on the 1st of November. Payments will be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honour of the second rank. A half-yearly payment, held over in May, will be made in November, provided an honour has been obtained in the meantime; and payment for the entire year will be made in November to such students as had not qualified for the May half-year's payment, and shall have then fulfilled all the requisites for the entire year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding minor Scholarships, and where Scholarships for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such students for an increase of their stipend.

The names of the Royal Scholars are placed on the College books, immediately after the names of the University scholars, without, however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

Midleton School.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" will grant annually two prizes, one of 30 *l.* and one of 20 *l.*, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal Schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Midleton School; and having been examined along with and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal Scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiners as deserving candidates.

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School Exhibitions and Prizes.

The Commissioners have founded 10 Exhibitions, viz., five of 25 *l.* and five of 15 *l.*, in each of the Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen, tenable by boys at School.

One Exhibition of 25 *l.*, and one of 15 *l.*, shall be awarded in each year, to be competed for by boys under the age of 13 years, whether they have been previously Pupils of the School or not. These Exhibitions to be tenable for three years.

One Exhibition of 25 *l.*, and one of 15 *l.*, shall be awarded each year, to be competed for by boys between the ages of 14 and 16 years, who have been at least one year in the School. These Exhibitions to be tenable for two years.

No boy can hold two Exhibitions at the same time.

The examination for these Exhibitions shall be held in the month of September in each year, the subjects of examination being the regular School work of the first five classes. No Exhibition shall be awarded where there is not absolute merit; and in such cases, the amount of the Exhibition forfeited shall revert to the estate of the School.

Four prizes of 10 *l.* each, and four of 5 *l.* each, will (if there be sufficient merit) be given annually in each School for proficiency in English and other subjects, a knowledge of which is required in commercial life.

(signed) *William Cotter Kyle*, LL.D.,
Secretary to "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

8, Clare-street, December 1875.

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of Education in *Ireland*, for the Year 1875-76.

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